

THE CITIZEN

Vol. 33, No. 22

The 6th Area Support Group Newspaper

Nov. 2, 2004

Stuttgart, Oberammergau and Garmisch, Germany

Capturing life through a lens

Stuttgart photographers honored for artistry

Pages 8 and 9



"Reverence" by Chief Warrant Officer 3 Mark Thompson earned first place in the Active Duty Black & White – People category of the 6th Area Support Group's 2004 Photo Contest.

INSIDE THIS EDITION

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Exercise tests area's force protection plan

German and U.S. security and emergency services personnel work together in response to a simulated terror attack.



Page 10

60 years later, Rommel remembered

Stuttgart residents are among the hundreds who honor Field Marshall Erwin Rommel on the 60th anniversary of his death.



Thorns 'n Roses

From community submissions



Roses to:

All the individuals who volunteered to make Stuttgart's recent force protection exercise such a success. Whether you were a "victim," participant, or observer/controller, your time and effort ensured a safer community for us all. (For more about the exercise see page 3).

Joni Brady, the nurse educator at the Stuttgart Wellness Center. In addition to being a font of not only useful, but potentially life-saving, information, Ms. Brady is also to be commended for her excellent attitude and customer-friendly approach to her job.

Approaching a health care professional can be daunting for many people – Joni Brady makes the experience not only easy, but enjoyable.

Thorns to:

Whoever is responsible for maintaining the "global" directory for users of MS Outlook in the Stuttgart military community.

This should be an excellent resource to enhance communication between offices and organizations, but the numerous instances of incorrect information I have encountered while attempting to use the global negate the potential good this service could provide.

Also, a "thorn within a thorn" to area employees and supervisors who don't ensure that their personal information in the global is correct. The information technology folks can't do it all for us, people.

E-mail comments to citizen@6asg.army.mil or fax them to 421-2570/civ. 0711-729-2570.

THE CITIZEN

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Gen. Bell stresses safety as winter months approach

By Gen. B.B. Bell
U.S. Army, Europe



Bell

On Oct. 9 one of our Soldiers was killed in a car crash. The driver of the car in which the Soldier was riding lost control on a curve, and the vehicle broadsided a tree and was sheared in half.

Even though the details of the crash are not known, there are things we do know that can prevent senseless tragedies such as this.

Over the last 12 months we have lost eight U.S. Army, Europe, Soldiers to off-duty vehicle crashes. Most of these crashes could have been prevented if a leader had effectively intervened, or if the Soldier had met "Under the Oak Tree" beforehand with his or her first-line supervisor.

At our Commanders Safety Council meeting last week, we laid out some straightforward directions for leaders concerning "Under the Oak Tree" contracts.

These contracts simply cannot be optional. Leaders must not allow Soldiers to go on pass or leave without first conducting an honest "Under the Oak Tree" meeting to discuss the Soldier's plans.

This includes agreeing to alternatives to driving or riding with someone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Soldiers, however, are ultimately responsible for their own safety. As we begin a new fiscal year, I ask Soldiers to review basic safety rules and renew their commitment to act responsibly, both on and off duty.

In addition, Soldiers should do the following:

- Be honest and open with their leaders about their off-duty plans when meeting "Under the Oak Tree."
- Do not take chances behind the wheel or let others do so. Soldiers are responsible for their own safety, regardless of who is driving.
- Do not drive – or let others drive – after drinking.
- Use another means to get home.
- Learn defensive-driving techniques and use them.
- Buckle up when traveling in vehicles, whether riding in the front or back seat.

Each of us must continue to make sound off-duty risk management decisions. I am absolutely convinced that at least one of you reading this is alive today because of this process.

- Take care of themselves and others, and intervene if necessary to prevent someone from getting hurt.

Most importantly, each of us must continue to make sound off-duty risk management decisions.

This process should be second nature in all we do. I am absolutely convinced that at least one of you reading this is alive today because of this process.

Leaders and Soldiers are making good risk-management decisions about things they never considered before. It is easy to count fatalities; it is much more difficult – but much more important – to count the lives we have saved by simply taking time to consider the risks involved in our plans and modifying our activities accordingly.

I want every Soldier to read this message and make a personal commitment to "No Loss of Life" by acting responsibly in fiscal year 2005.

Let us take care of each other as we continue to execute with excellence Any Mission, Anywhere.

Bell is the USAREUR commander. The message from which this was excerpted – and an archive of previous "Bell Sends" messages – can be accessed online at www.hqusareur.army.mil.

For more about winter safety, see "Is your vehicle ready for winter weather?" on page 13.

In support of USAREUR's Winter Safety Campaign, upcoming editions of The Citizen will include information on cooking and kitchen safety (Nov. 16), fire safety and holiday decorations (Nov. 30) and entertaining and celebration safety (Dec. 14).

ADVERTISEMENTS

Schools need substitutes

Substitute teachers are needed to support the mission of all Department of Defense Dependents Schools.

To learn more about how you can become a substitute teacher, visit or call the main office of any area DoDDS school.

Powwow on Patch

Nov. 6, noon to 4 p.m.

PHS gymnasium

- Celebrate Native American Heritage Month with members and friends of the Stuttgart military community at this free event.

- This year's theme is "Serving with Honor, Pride and Devotion."

- Enjoy traditional dances (more than 50 dancers/performers will be featured), live flute music, educational displays and much more.

- For more information call Sgt. 1st Class Carey Williams at 421-2892/civ. 0711-729-2892 or e-mail williams@6asg.army.mil





The participation of both U.S. military and German emergency services and security personnel was crucial to the success of "Stallion Shake 2004," a weeklong force protection exercise that culminated in a simulated terrorist attack on Kelley Barracks Oct. 16.

Two nations, one mission Force protection exercise tests combined response of German, U.S. personnel

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

A weeklong force protection exercise in Stuttgart culminated in a simulated terrorist attack that brought U.S. military and German security and emergency services forces together for a combined crisis management response effort Oct. 16 on Kelley Barracks.

The result, according to the commander of the 6th Area Support Group, should be reassuring to members of the Stuttgart military community.

"The support we received from the German agencies was overwhelming," said 6th ASG Command Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris. "It's imperative that we have an excellent relationship with the German organizations, and events like this help to maintain that relationship. This was a great exercise."

"Stallion Shake 2004" tested the ability of U.S. forces to coordinate with German *Feuerwehr*, *Polizei* and *Deutsche Rotes Kreuz* personnel in response to a simulated terrorist incident and chemical attack on the installation.

Stallion Shake also incorporated training objectives from tenant units – using the "task, condition and standard" format to enable a post-exercise evaluation of successes and shortfalls – said Lt. Col. Peter Lee, director of the 6th Area Support Group Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

The result, Lee said, was an opportunity not only to train personnel but also to enhance the area's readiness to respond to a consequence management incident.

"We like to train for a worst-case scenario," he said. "This exercise was an incredible community event that brought together key people who provide necessary resources to respond to consequence management incidents."

DPTMS Deputy Director Maj. Todd Alston said the efforts of both host-nation and tenant unit personnel was extraordinary.

With more than 300 German first responders joining U.S. troops to secure the installation and rescue 55 volunteer "victims," coordination was crucial to the success of the effort – and Alston said that mission was met. "[The participants'] professionalism and ability to communicate was excellent," he said.

Art Richard, the 6th ASG's acting provost marshal, echoed Alston's observations. "The support we receive from the German organizations is superb," he said. "If something happens, we know we're not alone."



German firefighters evacuate a simulated chemical attack victim during a combined force protection exercise Oct. 16 on Kelley Barracks

"The support we receive from the German organizations is superb. If something happens, we know we're not alone."

Art Richard
6th ASG Provost Marshal's Office

News & Notes

Honor America's veterans Nov. 11

Stuttgart's American Legion Post 6 will host a Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 11, 11 a.m., at the base of the flag pole in Patch Barracks' Washington Square.

All community members are encouraged to participate in this effort to thank U.S. veterans for their service and sacrifices.

Bowling Center to open on Panzer

One of the premiere bowling houses in Europe is set to open Nov. 4 on Panzer Kaserne.

The Galaxy Bowling & Entertainment Center will feature 24 lanes, a "Strike Zone" snack bar, kids' area and much, much more.

For details call 421-2848/civ. 0711-729-2848.

'Quit to Win' with Wellness Center

Join the Stuttgart Wellness Center for Quit to Win, a one-month program that uses a buddy-system approach toward eliminating tobacco dependency.

Success meetings will be held Nov. 3, 10, 15, and 23, 11 a.m. to noon, in the Stuttgart Wellness Center (Patch Barracks, building 2307). Registration is not required.

For details call Terry Gorham at 430-8209/civ. 0711-680-8209 or Michelle Saylor at 430-4073/civ. 0711-680-4073.

Football championships in Stuttgart

The IMA-E Unit-Level Flag Football Championships are Nov. 5 to 7, 10 a.m., on Patch Barracks' Husky Field.

For more information call the Patch FitnessCenter at 430-7136/civ. 0711-680-7136.

YS Sports registrations underway

Registration is underway for Youth Sports basketball, wrestling, and cheerleading.

The cost for basketball (ages 4 to 15) and wrestling (ages 5 to 15) is \$30 for the first child, with a 10-percent discount for each additional child in the family.

Cheerleading, which is open to children ages 5 to 15, costs \$20 for the first child, with a 10-percent discount for each additional child in the family.

For more information or to register call 431-2616/civ. 07031-15616 or visit any YS facility.

College Fair needs volunteers

Patch High School's annual Parent Teacher Student Association College Fair is Nov. 19, 2 to 4 p.m., in the PHS Forum. To make the fair as meaningful as possible for our students, members of the Stuttgart military community are invited to represent their college at this event.

For more information about participating in the fair e-mail Rachel Lask at jrkl@yahoo.com

Help SNAP keep Stuttgart safe

Stuttgart's Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program relies on dedicated volunteers to serve as "extra eyes and ears" and help keep our installations safe.

For more about the benefits of joining one of Stuttgart's neighborhood watch teams visit the new SNAP office in Patch Barracks' building 2318 or e-mail eppse@6asg.army.mil.

Quilt guild meets monthly

Whether you're a lifelong quilter or just interested in learning about this creative endeavor, the Black Forest Quilters have a place for you.

This German-American guild meets the fourth Friday of each month in the former "O-Club" on Panzer Kaserne.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting starts at 7. For details call 430-5270/civ. 0711-680-5270.

Massage services on Patch, Panzer

Massage therapy services are available in the Panzer Fitness Center and in the Stuttgart Wellness Center on Patch Barracks.

Appointments in the Fitness Center are available seven days a week during normal business hours; appointments in the Wellness Center are Fridays, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information about massage services in Stuttgart call 430-5386/civ. 0711-680-5386

Dinner & a murder in the Swabian

The Swabian Special Events Center is hosting a Murder Mystery Dinner Theater Nov. 20, 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy a four-course meal and a chilling mystery performed by a professional acting group for only \$30 per person. For details call 430-8205/civ. 0711-680-8205.

Cubs' cleanup effort benefits environment, communities

Story & photo by
Lt. Col. John Zazworsky
Contributor

Fifteen Cub Scouts from the Stuttgart area dedicated an October Saturday to environmental conservation and the promotion of positive German-American relations.

The Scouts from Pack 324 (Patch Barracks and Kelley Barracks) conducted a trash cleanup project along the Nagold River west of Herrenberg and Nagold.

Along with 12 parents, the first-through fifth-graders first cleaned up a large meadow that serves as a community activity area for the nearby German villages.

After that, the Scouts divided into smaller groups to clean the banks along nearly four kilometers of the river.

Bill Hill, who manages the stretch of river for the Stuttgart Rod and Gun Club, allowed the group to use a nearby classroom building for both a pre-cleanup discussion of Scouting's Outdoor Code and a picnic after the work was done.

For more about scouting in the Stuttgart area – including contact information for the area's four Cub Scout packs and three Boy Scout troops – visit www.stuttgart.army.mil/boyscouts.htm.



Stuttgart-area Cub Scouts appear pleased with the results of their Oct. 2 cleanup effort along the Nagold River west of Herrenberg and Nagold. In addition to emphasizing environmental awareness, the project also promoted teamwork and positive German-American relations.

Stuttgart service member named Space, Missile Defense Command Soldier of Year

By Mildred Green

A Soldier from the Joint Tactical Ground Station Europe unit on Kelley Barracks was named the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command 2004 Soldier of the Year during a June 23 ceremony in Washington D.C.

Spc. Dan Everly, an early warning systems operator with A Detachment, 1st Space Company, was awarded the Impact Meritorious Service Medal for this achievement.

Before competing in the command-wide competition, Everly won the European regional SMDC competition in May in Landstuhl, and was awarded an Army Commendation Medal.

"To compete at those levels and win caught me off guard," said Everly, who said he initially did not know much about the SOY competition.

In September, Everly competed in the five-day Army Soldier of the Year competition in Virginia.

Although he did not win at the Armywide level,

Everly said "to compete in the SOY was an honor. From start to finish it was a phenomenal experience."

Everly, who will complete his second year in the Army this month, said that the amount of knowledge gained from the competitions was incredible.

Everly's wife, Lori, shared in her husband's excitement over his wins. "I am very proud of my husband and his accomplishments," she said.

Competition gets tough

During the competitions – which Everly said got tougher from competition to competition – the participants had to take physical fitness tests and were also tested on first aid, map reading and drill and ceremony.

Everly compared the boards – in which the Soldiers were grilled on questions about military background – to promotion boards.

"Because it's so similar to the promotion board, it's great preparation," he said.

The regional and world wide SMDC SOY competitions each lasted one day. But the Armywide contest, which covered a wide range of skills, was a weeklong affair.

The 10 competitors at the SOY competition experienced long days filled with evaluations such as a written exam, an essay, and hands-on tests including day and night navigations, Everly said.

A duty to defend

Everly, who comes from a family of WWII and Vietnam Veterans, was inspired to join the military after Sept. 11, 2001.

Although he was about to be married and was working, Everly said he "just couldn't sit and do nothing."

A year later, Everly went to speak to a military recruiter.

Though he initially was looking into joining the Reserves or National Guard, Everly made the decision to join the Army after taking the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery.

"I felt like a lot of Americans. It was my duty as an American to defend my country."



courtesy

Spc. Dan Everly, who is assigned to the Kelley Barracks-based Joint Tactical Ground Station Europe, receives an award certificate June 23 in Washington, D.C. after being named U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command 2004 Soldier of the Year.

NATO School conducts class in Moscow

Course addresses leaders in elite Russian academy

Story & photos by Claude Schmitz
The NATO School

For the first time, the Russian military allowed a NATO team access to its elite academy, one which educates present and future Russian generals.

"Convince us that your organization is better than ours, then we will join it," challenged Russian Col. Gen. Victor Barinykin, deputy commandant of the Russian General Staff Academy, during the opening of the first NATO-Russia Interoperability Course Oct. 11 in Moscow.

Barinykin heralded the quality of Russian senior officers and identified three "Heroes of the Russian Federation" as well as many combat-tested division commanders among the 103 Russian officers in attendance.

Vice-Admiral Hans-Joachim Stricker, deputy chief of staff, transformation, to the Supreme Allied Command Transformation, said, "The fact that I am addressing this audience here today is a direct consequence of the decision of the NATO-Russia Council to work together as equal partners against contemporary threats we all share."

In panel discussion, officials from various nations and military branches explained NATO military roles and missions to the Russian audience.

According to British Army Lt. Col. Brian Clesham, the course provided senior Russian officers with an overview of NATO, including the alliance's structures, functions, operations, crisis management and response practices. The course is part of the Exercise and Training Program agreed upon by the NATO-Russia Council chiefs of defense in Nov. 2003.

Gen. Gerhard Back, commander, Joint Force Command Brunssum, and Lt. Gen. Ciro Coccozza, chief of staff, Joint



A NATO-Russia Interoperability Course participant addresses a panel that includes Gen. Gerhard Back [top] and Lt. Gen. Ciro Coccozza [bottom] Oct. 15 in Moscow.



Force Command Naples, addressed course members Oct. 15.

"This course is important both to me and to NATO," Back said during a talk that focused primarily on critical events in Afghanistan, with elections there having recently taken place.

Audience members had the opportunity to question both Back and Coccozza during a panel discussion.

In his closing remarks, Back noted that "we have tried to hold nothing back regarding military matters and you, too, have held nothing back, and we are extremely grateful for your contribution, your questions and comments which undoubtedly contributed to a most successful dialogue and a much greater understanding of the issues and challenges that face us."

Col. Gen. Victor Chechevatov, chief of the military acad-

emy, reviewed the quality of the presentations on NATO structures, functions and operations, and urged that the information reach a larger Russian military audience in the future.

One direct result of this engagement has been Russian authorities' agreement to provide NATO military with equivalent Russian military information next year at the NATO School in Oberammergau.

A second Interoperability Course – this one for Russian field-grade officers – was scheduled to be held Oct. 18 to 22 at the Russian Combined Force Academy in Moscow.

For more about The NATO School visit www.natoschool-shape.de. For more about NATO visit www.nato.int.

Garmisch celebrates Hispanic-American heritage with family-friendly *fiesta* in Burke Center

Story & photos by Jen Stephan

With piñatas at the ready, tables groaning with food and the floor cleared for dancing, it was time for a fiesta.

Garmisch kicked off its annual celebration of Hispanic-American Heritage Month Oct. 2 in the Pete Burke Center with a day of family fun.

"It's one of the major cultural events here in Garmisch," said Sonya Day, one of the event's volunteers.

Child and Youth Services Facility Coordinator and Program Director Melanie Resto, who coordinated the event, decided this year to showcase the food and culture of the Caribbean.

"I wanted to enlighten the Garmisch community about other Hispanic cultures," Resto said, pointing to the broad diversity found among Latinos. "Hispanic can mean Puerto Rican and Columbian as well as Spanish and Mexican."

Though the more familiar tacos and tortillas were available, the menu also included a vast variety of home-cooked dishes from Resto's Puerto Rican heritage. Many Garmisch residents got their first taste of *tostones* or crispy fried plantains, and *bacalao guisado* a stewed fish dish served over mashed yucca root.

For authenticity and support, Resto enlisted the help of Latino friends from all over Europe.

"Events like this always bring out the best in a culture," said Evelyn Otazu, a friend of Resto's who traveled to Garmisch from Belgium for the event.

When asked what characterizes the Hispanic culture, volunteer Thomas Goita answered, "Language and strong family ties ... there's a lot of togetherness and interaction with kids."

For the children attending the celebration, there were craft stations where they could learn to make colorful paper flowers or weave yarn around two crossed sticks into a traditional diamond pattern known as an *Ojo de Dios*, or "God's Eye." Divided into age groups

Four-year-old Ian Yako prepares to take a swing at the piñata during Garmisch's Oct. 2 Hispanic-American heritage celebration.



Father-daughter dance team Miguel and Michelle Navarro came to Garmisch from Aviano, Italy, to entertain at the community's Oct. 2 Hispanic-American heritage celebration.

later, kids got a chance to swing at piñatas stuffed with enough candy to fill both of their hands and some of their shirts.

"Melanie did a great job," said Garmisch resident Amy Yako. "She covered a very broad spectrum of Hispanic culture and I like the fact that this year's event was so family oriented."

Recruited for the event from Aviano, Italy, dancer Miguel Navarro and his 10-year-old daughter, Michelle, entertained an enthusiastic crowd with a flirty dance called a Cumbia. "It's the national dance of Columbia," Navarro said. "In Columbia, our heritage and culture are so rich. Dance is just something we grow up with."

For those in attendance who wanted to try their hand at some of the moves they had just seen performed on stage, or to learn something new for that evening's all-age Hispanic disco, there were Hispanic dance lessons taught by husband and wife team, Jose and Maribel Sierra.

"We aren't doing these things for ourselves," said Jose Sierra. "We do it so that others can come and see and taste another culture."

Command sergeant major salutes Hispanic-Americans for service from Revolution to global war on terror

Story & photo by Jen Stephan

Sixth Area Support Group Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez saluted Hispanic-American service members for their efforts "from the bloody battlegrounds of the American Revolution to the often chaotic front lines of the global war on terror" during an Oct. 15 Hispanic-American Heritage Luncheon on Artillery Kaserne.

Hispanic-American service members, Chavez said, "have advanced the cause of freedom in a manner that is consistent with the highest ideals of this great nation."

Organized by Army Community Service Coordinator Patty Howe and Child and Youth Services Facility Director and Program Coordinator Melanie Resto, the luncheon featured raffle prizes donated by Goya Foods and a Hispanic-themed meal prepared and served by personnel from Armed Forces Recreation Centers Europe.

Chavez's speech focused on family and the U.S. military – "two aspects of the Hispanic experience that are near and dear to my heart," he said, adding that, "dedication to hard work and family has helped the Hispanic-American community grow into one of the America's most influential minority groups ... allow[ing] our people to not only achieve the American dream, but also to make that dream more accessible to others."

"Hispanic-American service members have advanced the cause of freedom in a manner that is consistent with the highest ideals of this great nation."

Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez
6th Area Support Group

"I like the fact that [Chavez] mentioned his own son [who served] in Iraq. He made it personal," Resto said. "Many folks don't realize the impact Latinos have had on the different wars and within the military. He brought that to light and did so elegantly."

Col. Michael Manning, chief of staff of the George C. Marshall Center, said Chavez's visit was important to the center because "the Marshall Center ... typically [has] 35 or more countries represented in our resident courses. These students observe what this community does and that includes our honoring of the vast cultural diversity of the United States."

Sgt. 1st Class Ron Lauscher agreed, saying "by embracing this diversity, we not only show the world what a true democracy is, but we strengthen America's core throughout the world."



6th ASG Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez accepts a gift after speaking Oct. 15 on Garmisch's Artillery Kaserne.

Stuttgart contest puts photographers in the spotlight

Officials 'overwhelmed' by quality, quantity of submissions

By Hugh C. McBride

Even Uka was impressed. A renowned photographer and visual artist – and head of the Robinson Barracks Arts and Photo Center – Uka Meissner has reviewed more than her share of contest submissions from amateur and professional photographers during almost four decades of working with the U.S. military community.

But nothing in her background prepared her for the 2004 edition of the 6th Area Support Group Photo Contest.

"I was just utterly overwhelmed by the participation and the quality of the submissions," Meissner said. "I had no idea there was such talent and creativity in this community."

Meissner wasn't the only one to be taken aback by the quality and quantity of entries in this year's contest. The hundreds of submitted photos, she said, prompted "hours and hours" of discussions and evaluations by the three professional German photographers who judged the contest.

The results, which were announced during a Sept. 24 ceremony in the Kelley Community Club, recognized a cross-section of community members for the moments they had captured through the lenses of both digital and traditional film cameras.

The competition was separated into two divisions – active-duty service members and civilians – with each group eligible to enter color and black-and-white prints in five categories: People, Places, Things, Military Life and Experimental/Creative Techniques.

First, second and third prizes and honorable mentions were awarded on a category-by-category basis.

For Chief Warrant Officer 2 Nelly McKay, whose photo contest awards included a first place for "Green Beauty," the successes of the area's artists reflected the efforts of – and example set by – the woman at the center of the contest.

"Uka reminds me of the quintessential 'Renaissance Man'," McKay said. "Drawing, painting, sculpture, photography – you name it, and she has firsthand experience. And, most important, she loves sharing her discoveries with others. No matter what you want to learn, or improve, she is there to help you – and if she doesn't already know how to do it, she will learn and then share her findings with you."

The importance of the personal – and personalized – attention available at the center was also emphasized by Charlotte Thielen, 6th Area Support Group arts and crafts director.

"I think everyone with an interest in visual arts should inquire about individual classes and tutoring," Thielen said, noting that the center welcomes those who are on the cutting-edge of digital image enhancement as well as traditionalists who prefer film and a darkroom.

Thielen said classes such as Fine Silver Photography take black and white film development "to the next level," while Adobe PhotoShop classes allow students to stretch the boundaries of their skills and imaginations via the center's Apple Macintosh computers. Also, "photo field trips" to castles and other area attractions provide guided, hands-on experience in a variety of natural settings.

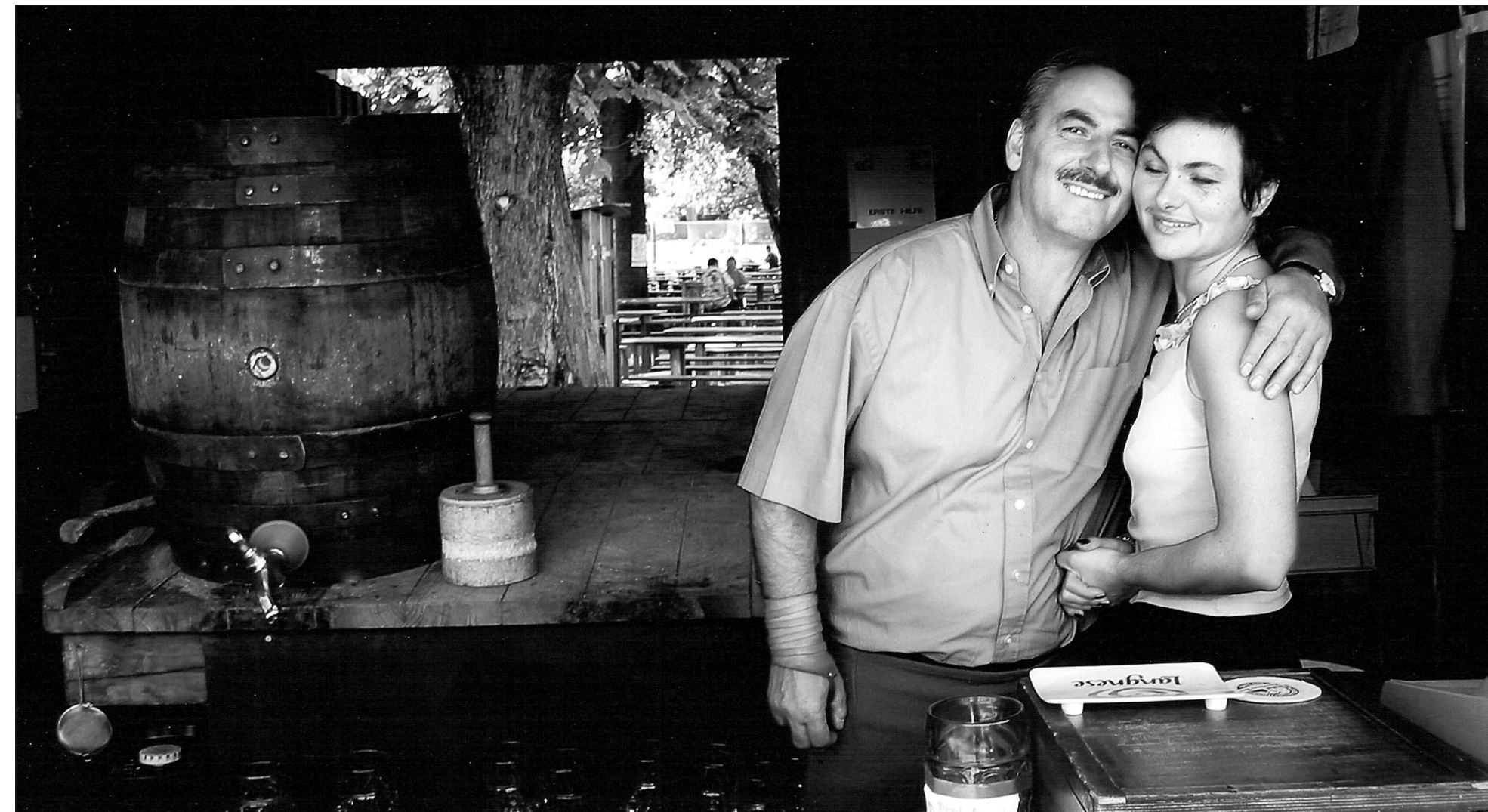
Individuals who are new to photography can avail themselves of introductory classes for both film and digital cameras, Thielen said, while those who prefer to be on the other side of the lens also have myriad options on RB.

"We have a portrait studio [in the RB center] for passport photos, weddings, family portraits, pets ... whatever photo needs our community members have," she said. "We also have a contract photographer, Jenny Allen, for those who want a softer, more natural look in their photographs."

The RB Arts and Photo Center is open Mondays to Wednesdays, 3 to 9 p.m.; and Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more about the center or for a complete list of photo contest winners call 420-6038/civ. 0711-819-6038 or e-mail meissneru@6asg.army.mil.

For more information about all arts and crafts opportunities in Stuttgart and Garmisch call 430-4260/civ. 0711-680-4260 or e-mail friedelc@6asg.army.mil.



[Left] Cory Doubek's "David," a unique look at an iconic sculpture, placed first in the Civilian Color – Experimental/Creative Technique category.

[Above] "Take Our Picture!," which was taken by Charles Badalati, earned second place in the Civilian Black & White – People category.



[Left] Chief Warrant Officer 2 Nelly McKay's "Green Beauty" won the Active Duty Color – Thing category.

[Above] Sgt. Michael T. Lloyd took second place in the Active Duty Black & White – Military Life category with "Boots."

Field Marshal Rommel remembered

Sixty years after forced suicide, renowned military leader honored by Germans, Americans

By Melanie Casey

More than 200 visitors paid their respects to Field Marshal Erwin Rommel Oct. 17 during a graveside ceremony in Herrlingen, Germany, on the 60th anniversary of his death.

Rommel, known as *der Wustenfuchs* (the Desert Fox) for his ability to outsmart his enemies during the Africa campaign of 1941 to 1943, was forced to commit suicide at the age of 53 Oct. 14, 1944, because he had been implicated in a plot to overthrow Adolf Hitler.

Rommel's untimely death was officially attributed to war injuries, and he was given a state funeral with full honors. His wife, Lucie, and son, Manfred, (who was later Lord Mayor of Stuttgart and still lives in the area) were spared any serious repercussions of Rommel's alleged traitorous act.

The Stauffenberg Plan

Historians still dispute whether Rommel – who was never a member of the Nazi party – was involved in the now-famous Stauffenberg plan (a failed plot orchestrated by Major Claus von Stauffenberg which, if successful, would have resulted in the assassination of Hitler and overthrow of his government).

Walter Goerlitz, author of the 1953 book *The History of the German General Staff*, wrote that Rommel knew of the plan, "though nothing was said of the proposed assassination of Hitler. Only an arrest was discussed."

Furthermore, Goerlitz writes, "there can be no doubt that the support of a man as popular as Rommel would have been a great source of strength to the [Stauffenberg plan]."

On the other hand, Gen. Sir David Fraser wrote in *The Readers Companion to Military History* that Rommel had "never participated in the plot to assassinate Hitler, but his defeatism was known and his involvement presumed."

So Rommel's involvement in the failed coup is murky at best. But what is clear is that after the June 6, 1944, invasion of Normandy, Rommel believed the German cause was lost.

He expressed this opinion to Hitler on several occasions. Goerlitz wrote that Rommel "called upon Hitler to face the consequences of the collapse of the western front and bring the war to an end," and Fraser stated that "Rommel had lost all faith in Adolf Hitler ... by 1944 he was disenchanted by Hitler's refusal to face facts."

So whether Rommel was involved in the Stauffenberg plan or not, the consequences of that plan – and his attitude about the war – greatly affected him and others involved.

On Oct. 14, 1944, Rommel, who was home recuperating from wounds suffered during battle, was approached by two of Hitler's generals and handed poison.

He was told, Goerlitz wrote, that he "must take it or face his trial at a People's court. Rommel took the poison, and was given a state funeral." He was buried with full military honors four days later and Hitler ordered a day of national mourning.

Sixty years later

The Oct. 17 ceremony was attended by representatives from several local German military units, the Patch High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps and hundreds of German and American civilians.

Rommel's son, Manfred, paid public tribute to his father for perhaps the last time, as many in attendance believed that this year's commemoration was the last.

Several attendees expressed the opinion that the annual tribute to Field Marshal Rommel on the anniversary of his death is becoming too taxing for some of the aging veterans.



Rommel



Melanie Casey

Representatives from the Deutsches Afrika Corps and 7th Panzer Division unfurl their banners at the grave of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, known as The Desert Fox, during a commemoration event on the 60th anniversary of his death Oct. 17 in Herrlingen, Germany.

Rommel has been variously described as a Nazi or as a martyr of the German Resistance. He was neither. He was a straightforward, gifted, patriotic German officer, a charismatic commander and master of maneuver, caught up in the disaster of the Third Reich.

Gen. Sir David Fraser
Author and Historian

Highlights of Rommel's military career

1910 – Officer cadet in the 124th Infantry.

1914-18 – Serves in France, Romania and Italy during World War I. Earns the *Pour de Merit*.

1929-38 – Instructor, Dresden Infantry School and Potsdam War Academy.

1937 – Publishes *Infanterie greift an*, a textbook on military tactics.

1938 – Commandant, Wiener Neustadt War Academy.

1940 – Commands 7th Panzer Division in France.

1941 – Takes command of the German Africa Corps.

1942 – Promoted to Field Marshal (at age 50, the youngest in the German Army).

July 17, 1944 – Wounded by fire from Allied aircraft.

Oct. 14, 1944 – Commits forced suicide.

source: www.grolier.com

For more information about Erwin Rommel, visit the following Web sites:

www.achtungpanzer.com
www.eyewitnesstohistory.com
www.historylearningsite.co.uk
www.military.com
<http://en.wikipedia.org>

Turning attention toward breast cancer

Awareness events promote understanding, education

Story & photos by Terri Alejandro

Twenty years ago, you probably wouldn't have heard the words "breast cancer" spoken outside of a doctor's office. Today, through events such as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Komen Race for the Cure and local community outreach programs, the public is becoming increasingly educated about breast cancer detection and treatment.

Increasing public awareness on such a large scale has been a massive undertaking.

Over the past two decades more than \$740 million has been raised for innovative breast cancer research and community-based outreach programs. This would not have been possible without the many volunteers who dedicate their time and talents to an area critical to the success of the cause: fundraising.

On Oct. 16, the Böblingen Community Activities Club held its Fourth Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Dinner and Silent Auction in the Patch Community Club. All proceeds from the event, which has grown from a small luncheon to an evening of dining and dancing, are donated to breast cancer research.

Statistics indicate that one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer. Odds are that someone you know has battled or beaten the disease.

"Nearly everyone I sold tickets to shared a personal story," said event organizer Cindy Tannenbaum. The community showed its support for the cause by buying every available ticket to the event, as well as bidding generously on auction items, purchasing numerous raffle tickets and making cash donations.



Nurse Educator Joni Brady (left) speaks with Sylvia Moss, Liz Bandiera during the Oct. 16 Breast Cancer Awareness Dinner on Patch Barracks.

Throughout the evening, guests bid on the auction items and then watched carefully until the closing call, frequently returning to outbid a competitor. Items on the block included gift baskets, paintings, wines, antiques and ceramics. Those who did not want to bid could purchase raffle tickets for a wide variety of prizes.

Guests roamed from table to table, with nearly everyone stopping to visit with Nurse Educator Joni Brady.

Brady, representing the Wellness Center and the Stuttgart Health Clinic, manned a table filled with information on breast health. As she handed out brochures and self-exami-

Online resources

American Cancer Society
www.cancer.org

National Cancer Institute
<http://rex.nci.nih.gov>

Susan G. Komen Foundation
www.komen.org

nation reminder cards, she continually stressed the importance of early detection.

"The survival rate for localized breast cancer is 97% if detected early," Brady said.

Brady said "It's human nature to not want to hear bad news." Many women don't perform self-examinations or postpone scheduling mammograms out of avoidance or denial, she said.

"The benefits of the mammogram as an early detection tool far outweigh the few minutes of discomfort during the exam," Brady said.

Jackie Sims, whose mother is a seven-year breast cancer survivor, urges others to get their annual mammogram.

Most insurance providers, as well as Medicaid, allow annual screening mammograms for women beginning at age forty. Typically there is no out-of-pocket expense or deductible for the exam.

"I don't understand why some women don't go; it could save your life," Sims said.

For more information call Brady at 430-4658/civ. 0711-680-4658 or e-mail joni.brady@hbg.amedd.army.mil.

Vaccine shortage increases importance of flu-prevention measures

European Regional Medical Command

A shortage of the influenza vaccine does not mean that the flu is unavoidable. Prevention is key this season.

The flu season in Germany usually begins in November and runs through March or April, with the greatest number of cases usually occurring in January.

However, production difficulties by one of the vaccine manufacturers has limited the amount of available vaccine.

Top priority

“The limited vaccine supply is resulting in deployed and deploying service members getting priority for the vaccination, followed by high risk beneficiaries,” said Col. Kent Bradley, preventive medicine consultant, Europe Regional Medical Command.

Though health officials are uncertain how many vaccine doses will eventually be available in Europe, Bradley said all high-risk beneficiaries should be able to receive the vaccine.

High-risk patients

“People in high-risk categories should have first priority for the vaccine after deployed or deploying Soldiers,” Bradley said. “The Department of Defense will administer the limited flu vaccine supply in strict accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s recommendations.”

High-risk categories include the following:

- Infants ages 6 to 23 months

Sensible steps to stay flu-free

- **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick. When you are sick, **keep your distance** from others to protect them from getting sick, too.
- **Stay home** from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
- **Cover your mouth and nose** when sneezing, and **wash your hands** often to help stop the spread of germs.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth**, as germs are often spread this way after touching contaminated items.
- Get plenty of **sleep**.
- Engage in regular **physical activity**.
- **Reduce stress** levels as much as possible.
- Drink plenty of **water**, eat **healthy foods**, limit alcohol intake and **don’t smoke**.

- Children ages 6 months to 18 years who are on chronic aspirin therapy
- Adults 65 and older
- Women who will be pregnant during the flu season
- Individuals ages 2 to 64 with underlying chronic medical conditions
- Residents of nursing homes or long-term care facilities
- Health care workers involved in direct patient care
- Out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of children less than 6 months

Children less than 9 years old require two doses of the vaccine if they have not been previously vaccinated.

Also, individuals who have had serious allergic reaction to eggs or to a previous dose of influenza vaccine or who

have a history of Guillain-Barre Syndrome should consult with a doctor before getting the vaccine.

Bradley said that because of the vaccine supply situation, people not included in one of the priority groups should forego or defer vaccination and focus heavily on prevention.

“While getting vaccinated is the best prevention against influenza,” he said, “there are several things people can do to make themselves less susceptible to the influenza disease and to prevent spreading of the disease since most cold and flu viruses are spread through direct contact.” [See box at left for flu-avoidance tips.]

Not ‘just a cold’

“A common misconception is that the flu and the ‘common cold’ are the same disease,” Bradley said. “They’re not.”

“While a cold might give you a stuffy head and runny nose, a true case of influenza may put you in bed with a high fever, muscle aches and respiratory symptoms such as a cough,” Bradley said. “It can be debilitating.”

Complications from influenza kill about 40,000 people each year in the United States, he said.

Influenza symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, headache, chills and muscle aches. Vaccination protection against influenza develops about two weeks after getting the shot and may last up to a year.

For more about influenza visit www.cdc.gov.

Is your vehicle ready for winter weather?

Preparation key to avoiding cold-weather tragedies

6th Area Support Group Safety Office Release

Winter driving can be inconvenient and annoying, but most of all it can be dangerous. However, being prepared can help minimize the special risks associated with cold-weather driving.

The following tips can help get both you and your vehicle through the snow and safely into spring:

Where the rubber meets the road

- Don't get caught unprepared by the first snowfall: Put snow tires or at least all-season tires on all four wheels. The minimum tread depth should not be less than 1/6 of an inch or 4 mm.
- Chains may be required for some alpine passes – check your route to see if they will be necessary.
- Beware of fallen leaves, which can make roads as slippery as if they were ice-covered.
- Remember: in icy conditions even the best tires are of little help. In the worst winter weather, drive with extreme caution – or not at all.

See and be seen

- Check that all of your vehicle's lights are in good working order and that headlight beams are adjusted correctly.
- Clean the lights regularly. In rain, snow and slush lighting power can be reduced up to 75 percent by the accumulation of dirt and grime.
- Make sure your wiper blades are cleaning properly, with no smearing or stripes on the windshield.
- Clean both the outside and inside of the windshield. The effects of cigarette smoke and dirt particles on the inside can reduce visibility by one third.
- Be sure the windshield washer is adequately filled with

Emergency kits can be difference between life, death

The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration advises drivers to equip their vehicles with safety kits and note the following tips to increase the odds of surviving in case of accidents or breakdowns.

Vehicle safety kit: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flashlight• Jumper cables• Abrasive material (sand or kitty litter)• Shovel• Warning devices	Passenger safety kit: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food• Water• First-aid kit• Medication• Blankets• Cellular telephone	Advice when stopped or stalled: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay with your vehicle.• Don't overexert yourself.• Display bright warning devices.• Be sure the exhaust pipe is clear.• Run the car only long enough to remove the chill.
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freeze-resistance solution.

- Before driving, ensure that all windows and lights are completely clear of snow and ice. (No "porthole driving!")
- Remove all snow from the roof of the vehicle, to prevent motorists following you from being confronted and endangered by a sudden snow flurry from your roof.

Fit to drive

- Perform a fitness assesement on your vehicle to ensure it is up to the challenges of winter driving.
- Get an engine tune up, and switch to winter-grade oil (if you aren't already using all-season-oil).
- Check your car's battery, ensuring that it is in good condition, its connections are good and its terminal points are not corroded.
- Use anti-freeze that is not only strong enough to prevent freezing, but fresh enough to prevent rust.
- Be sure all fluids (including oil, brake and hydraulic) are at proper levels.

Fighting the fog

- Fog can affect perception, causing the illusion that vehicles in front of you are farther away than they really are.
 - As soon as you see fog, increase the distance between your vehicle and the one you are following.
 - Slow down.
 - Use low-beam headlights and rear fog lights.
 - Turn on your wipers and defroster to remove moisture from the windshield.
 - Use the right edge of the road or painted road markings as a reference – never rely on the rear lights of the vehicle in front of you.
 - Turn off the car radio and open the driver's window a little to listen for other vehicles.
 - If visibility is extremely limited, pull off the road, turn on your hazard flashers and wait until the weather has cleared.
- Remember, the key to winter driving is that it is better to arrive late but safe, rather than not at all.

Learning how to roll out the welcome mat

ACS class helps smooth the relocation process

By Mildred Green

Relocation is a term that most people generally do not enjoy hearing.

However, Stuttgart's Army Community Service is striving to make relocation a word that is not frowned upon. One way ACS is working toward this goal is by offering classes that teach sponsors how to help newcomers have a smooth relocation.

"Sponsors should make the family feel welcome, ensure basic needs are met and introduce the family to the community," said Heidi Magnuson, ACS Relocation Readiness program manager.

Magnuson and Kirsten Workman, ACS Relocation Readiness assistant, teach the sponsor-training classes at ACS every third Tuesday of the month, and also travel to units, agencies and organizations to provide the training.

Arranging to schedule a class is as easy as calling ACS and scheduling an appointment, Magnuson said.

"We just ask for space and a captive audience, and we will provide the rest," she said.

The sponsor-training class, which Magnuson said lasts a maximum of 45 minutes, is designed for service members and civilians who are ID card holders. Spouses are also welcome to attend the training.



Magnuson

'Sponsors should make the family feel welcome, ensure basic needs are met and introduce the family to the community.'

Heidi Magnuson

Army Community Service

'Helpful tips'

During the class, sponsors are given welcome packets – which include a request sheet for a youth sponsor, a list of Web sites with information about Stuttgart, and a welcome to Stuttgart CD – and a sponsor's guide book that includes a responsibility checklist.

"We also provide helpful tips," Magnuson said, adding that the advice is designed to help newcomers in their planning before they arrive in Germany.

For example, newcomers may not know that Germany has restrictions on particular types of dogs or that they must have a valid stateside driver's license in order to receive a U.S. Army, Europe, license.

Class gets thumbs up

U.S. European Command European Plans and Operations Center Operations Officer Cmdr. Mike Martin, who attended an Oct. 19 sponsor-training class, ap-

plauded Magnuson for providing information that he found to be very useful.

Martin said that the sooner a sponsor can help newcomers settle in and help families feel comfortable, the sooner the newcomer can not only be more productive at work but also "can get to the fun part, which is seeing the great things in Europe."

Also, Martin suggested that having a person who is in charge of the sponsor program for a unit – like Tremeka Alexander does for the EPOC – is helpful.

Martin said that Alexander keeps in close contact with Magnuson and also monitors the progress of the sponsors. "She has been really great," Martin said.

Sponsorship tips

- Do something good for the new people you're working with
- Do something good for the new people you're working with
- Do something good
- Use the newcomers' orders to set up an APO address prior to their arrival.

The remaining sponsor training classes for this year at the Stuttgart ACS (Patch Barracks, building 2307) will be held Nov. 16 and Dec. 14, 3:30 p.m.

Units or organizations may schedule additional training by request.

For more information in Stuttgart call 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176 or e-mail magnusohn@6asg.army.mil.

In Garmisch, call 442-2777/civ. 08821-759-2777 or e-mail patty.howe@garmisch.army.mil

Army working to reduce frequency of deployments

By Sgt. 1st Class

Tammy M. Jarrett

Army News Service

The Army's top personnel officer told attendees of the Association of the U.S. Army's 50th annual meeting Oct. 25 that the Army is seeking to reduce deployment frequencies for active-duty, National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers.

The goal is to have active-duty units home for at least two years before deploying again, said Lt. Col. Franklin L. Hagenbeck, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1.

The target for Guard and Reserve units is five years between deployments, he said.

However, some units are going to deploy more rapidly at least for the next year or two, he said.

The Army's expeditionary mindset is moving the service away from the individual replacement forces, where "we changed faces repetitively day in and day out over time," Hagenbeck said, and toward more stable and cohesive units.

These units will be kept together for 36 months at a time. They will train, deploy, fight and come home together, Hagenbeck said.

Soldiers among Olympians honored at White House

Story & photo by Joe Burlas
Army News Service

More than a dozen Army athletes joined their U.S. Olympic teammates at the White House Oct. 18 for a thank you from their commander in chief.

President George W. Bush greeted the 293 athletes who brought home 103 Olympic medals from Athens this past summer, as well as the 176 Paralympians who returned with 88 medals.

In his public remarks to the athletes, Bush called them true ambassadors, “humble in defeat and gracious in victory” and said they “showed the world the great tolerance and diversity of our country.”

For Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Duloher, who finished fifth in the Olympic skeet event, the White House visit was a double honor – seeing his commander in chief up close and personal, and getting the opportunity to meet the Paralympians.

“What we accomplished in Athens, while an honor, is nothing compared to the challenges the Paralympians had to overcome,” Duloher said.

Soldier Olympians included the following:

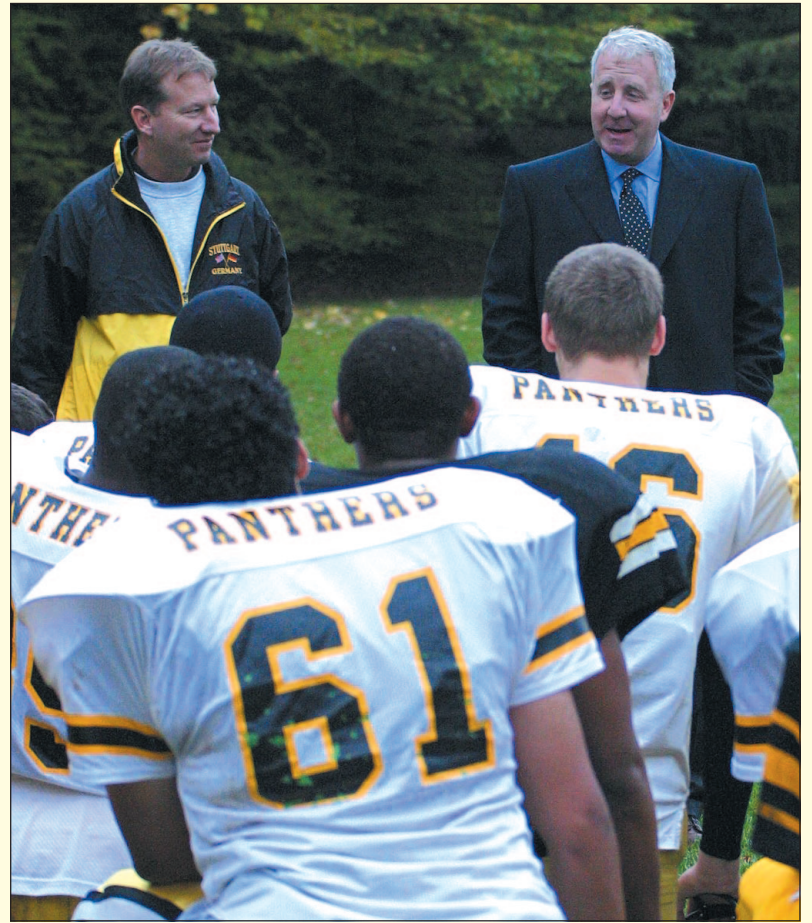
- Maj. Michael Anti took silver in men’s 50-meter three-position rifle shooting and finished 24th in 50-meter free-rifle prone.
- Sgt. 1st Class Jason Parker took an eighth-place finish in men’s 10-meter air rifle.
- Sgt. 1st Class Bret Erickson finished 13th in both men’s trap and double trap.
- Spc. Hattie Johnson finished 14th in women’s 10-meter air rifle.
- Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Callahan finished 19th in



President George W. Bush greets Olympic athletes – including several U.S. Soldiers – Oct. 18 on the White House lawn.

women’s 25-meter pistol and tied for 30th in 10-meter air pistol.

- Capt. Matt Smith’s crew placed ninth in men’s lightweight four rowing competition.
- Capt. Anita Allen finished 18th in women’s modern pentathlon.
- Sgt. John Nunn finished 26th in the 20K race walk.
- Capt. Dan Browne finished 12th in the 10K race and 65th in the marathon.
- Sgt. Oscar Wood competed in the 66-kilogram Greco-Roman wrestling tournament.
- Staff Sgt. Shon Lewis coached Greco-Roman wrestling, and Staff Sgt. Basheer Abdullah was Team USA’s head boxing coach.
- Sgt. 1st Class Daryl Szarenski finished in a four-way tie for 13th in men’s 10-meter air pistol and a three-way tie for 15th in 50-meter pistol.



Hugh C. McBride

Playoff pep talk from the pros

While preparing for their opening-round playoff game against the International School of Brussels, the Patch High School Panthers get a few words of advice from Randy Lerner, owner of the Cleveland Browns, Oct. 19. Lerner spoke about the importance of teamwork and trust and the necessity of a strong offensive line.